

OLC 78-2967
8 August 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Senator Lloyd Bentsen's (D., Texas) Reaction to Philip Agee's
Latest Endeavor

1. On Friday, 4 August, the undersigned received a call from [redacted] Liaison staff, Office of Legislative Counsel [redacted] said that he had just received a call from Steven Ward, Senator Bentsen's Foreign Affairs Assistant who called [redacted] to express an interest on the part of Senator Bentsen in developing a legislative remedy to the latest endeavors by former CIA employee, Philip Agee (see Washington Post 3 August 1978 article at Tab A). 25X1

2. According to [redacted] Senator Bentsen is interested in sponsoring legislation aimed at criminalizing the unauthorized disclosure of identities of CIA employees and agents (see Washington Post item at Tab B) [redacted] also said that Mr. Ward queried whether any laws presently on the books have been or would be broken by such disclosures. 25X1

3. I told [redacted] that S. 2525, the intelligence charter legislation contained a provision on point, e.g., paragraph 431(c)(1). I told [redacted] that we would contact Mr. Ward directly to discuss the matter. Before we had a chance to get to Mr. Ward on the phone [redacted] called back to say that Mr. Hitz would be seeing Senator Bentsen today and would be discussing the matter. It was decided to wait for the outcome of that meeting before contacting Mr. Ward. 25X1

4. Other attachments include at Tab C, Senator Bentsen's statement with regard to Agee endeavor and at Tab D a copy of Senator Bentsen's bill that represents an effort to develop a legislative response to the problem. At Tab E is the provision in S. 2525, the intelligence charter legislation, directly on point. 25X1

[redacted]
Assistant Legislative Counsel

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